

“ANDY” FIELDS DIES AT 65

“House of Mirth” Figures Passes Away in Atlantic City.

WAS SON OF A CLERGYMAN

Hughes Insurance Probers Sought Dobbs Ferry Man in Vain in 1906.

Andrew C. Fields, who figured prominently in the investigation of the Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1906, died on Friday night at the Hotel Marlborough-Blenheim, at Atlantic City. The body was taken to his home in Dobbs Ferry yesterday for burial.

Mr. Fields left his home, Greenwich, on Broadway, Dobbs Ferry, on Wednesday for the benefit of his health. He was accompanied by his wife and daughter, who were with him at his bedside when he died.

Andrew C. Fields was born sixty-five years ago in Dobbs Ferry and lived there all his life. He was a son of Andrew Craig Fields, who was pastor of the Summerfield Methodist Church in Dobbs Ferry for a number of years. When he was twenty-five years old he ran for county treasurer of Westchester County. In his home town he was well liked by the townspeople, many of whom had been aided through his acts of charity.

At the time of the life insurance investigation, beginning in the early part of 1906, “Andy” Fields came into much notoriety through his alleged connections with what was termed the “yellow dog fund.” At that time Fields was superintendent of the supply department of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, and it was said that hundreds of thousands of dollars were diverted to his use in influencing legislation at Albany and in other states. He maintained a house at Albany, used as a distributing point for the enormous funds that were turned over to him, which soon became known as “The House of Mirth,” because of the many humorous reports of transactions that occurred under its roof.

In a report regarding the activity of Fields as a watcher of legislation at Albany while he was in charge of the Mutual’s “supply department,” the following information concerning Fields was given: “For many years the company maintained under his name a house at Albany, and through him and his agents a close watch was kept upon the proceedings of the Legislature. The rent of this house, the supplies there consumed and the wages of the cook and other servants were charged to ‘legal expenses.’ Fields left for parts unknown soon after the committee began its hearings and it has not been able to procure his testimony. It appears, however, that he acted also for the Equitable, and from its records have been produced a series of memoranda of instructions sent Fields by Thomas D. Jordan, its controller, whose whereabouts the committee has been unable to ascertain, although it has made diligent effort to do so. It may be supposed that Fields’s work on behalf of the Mutual was at least as comprehensive as in the case of the Equitable, and his instructions from the latter show an exceedingly wide range of supervision of matters of legislation.

“There were general instructions and also numerous specific commands during the session directing that particular bills should be opposed, killed or supported.” The report continued that the large insurance companies systematically attempted to control legislation in this and other states which could affect their interests, directly or indirectly, and that in this effort Fields, who concerned himself mainly with this state, played a most important role. The three companies divided the country, outside of New York and a few other states, so as to avoid a waste of effort, each looking after legislation in its chosen district and bearing its appropriate part of the total expense.

In May, 1906, Andrew C. Fields was summoned before the insurance grand jury in this city, and William Travers Jerome, then District Attorney of New York County, conducted the examination, bringing from the witness important revelations of what had occurred at “The House of Mirth.”

In July, 1906, Fields was sued on two actions by the Mutual Life Insurance Company, one claiming \$1,745,000 for Mr. Fields’s mismanagement in approving vouchers and buying supplies at prices “grossly in excess of their reasonable value,” and the other action alleging fraud and asking an accounting of moneys alleged to have been received by Fields by means of fraudulent bills and vouchers.

BIG GROCERY FIRM IN TROUBLE.

Minneapolis, Feb. 11.—Minneapolis, New York and Philadelphia creditors of the Tish-Hutchins Wholesale Merchandise Company to-day filed a petition here asking that the company be declared bankrupt. According to the last statement of the firm, the liabilities are \$3,015,538.79 and the assets \$2,235,251.61.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

Official Record and Forecast.—Washington, Feb. 11.—The weather continues unsettled over the Western and Southern portions of the country, with general rains in the South and in the Pacific states, and local snows and rains in the plateau region. In the North and East the weather was generally fair.

BANK CLERKS GO ON STRIKE

Expect Trouble to Spread Over Entire East Side.

The first strike of the East Side Bank Clerks and Office Employees’ Union started a little after sundown yesterday in the bank of S. W. Barasch, at No. 77 Ridge street. The programme of the union is to order strikes in twenty-two other East Side banks at the rate of one or two each day, beginning with this week, the understanding being that the names of the banks are not to be announced or their proprietors notified until the clerks are actually on strike.

When the bank of S. W. Barasch opened last evening a committee of the union came, and for the second time made its wishes known, the clerks remaining at Clinton Hall, No. 131 Clinton street, to await the result. The committee reported that the demands were refused, and the clerks did not go to work.

Before Barasch knew that the clerks were not coming the bank was filled to the doors with the usual Saturday evening customers. The Barasch relatives, however, rose to the occasion. Soon there were two brothers and two sisters of Barasch behind the counters, and by slow stages the business of the night was transacted. The news that there was actually the first strike in an East Side bank spread and caused a good deal of excitement in the neighborhood.

The president of the union, Abraham Avrutov, said last night that the demands were a fifty-two-hour week, the clerks not to work more than six days in a week, time off for meals, recognition of the union, pay for all legal or Jewish holidays and advances in wages ranging from \$2 to \$3 a week.

OPPOSES SULLIVAN’S BILL

Charles A. Flammer Hits Plan to Make Magistrates Elective.

Ex-Magistrate Charles A. Flammer, who was for thirty years a magistrate in this city, is responsible for the statement that Senator “Christy” Sullivan’s bill, No. 7346, now before the Senate, which proposes to restore to New York the system of electing magistrates, which prevailed under the Tweed ring, and which was summarily abolished because it was found to be one of the ring’s greatest sources of power in the elections, is aimed to restore those same conditions.

Mr. Flammer, who was appointed a magistrate by Mayor Havemeyer in 1873, said last night that in that year, after the overthrow of the Tweed ring, the Legislature, in response to popular demand, abolished the elective magistrates and substituted the appointment system as one of the first measures essential to the complete overthrow of the Tweed power. While the magistrates owed their places on the bench to the district leaders and were dependent for votes on the very elements they should suppress in their courts, it was only natural that these courts should become a very powerful branch of the election machinery, he said.

Mr. Flammer, who was well acquainted with the courts under the elective system, is opposed to “a relapse to a system where district leaders made their daily headquarters in the magistrates’ courts, and where the fines were not collected or turned in to the city.”

COURT SHIES AT CANDY

Dodges Question as to Whether It Is a Necessity.

The Appellate Term of the Supreme Court is continually called upon to pass on weighty questions, but when it came to passing on the question of whether candy is a necessity, the august court dodged.

The case in which this ticklish question came up was that of Charles Repetti against the Repetti Company, of which the plaintiff was president. He sued the company for \$135 for the rent of the store at No. 46 West 125th street. The company put in a counter claim for candy, cake and loaves that had been served to Repetti’s family.

MAKES PLEA FOR RECALL

Senator Owen a Speaker at Republican Club Meeting.

SEES MENACE IN CHINA

Criticism of Senate Meets with Interruptions from Member of Audience.

Robert L. Owen, United States Senator from Oklahoma and a Democrat, addressed a large and representative gathering of the Republican Club yesterday on “Initiative, Referendum and Recall.” The Senator remarked in opening that it was a mighty good omen for the republic when a Democrat could feel perfectly at home speaking before the Republican Club of the greatest city in the Western world.

The club applauded its guest as step by step he worked up his argument from the results of the referendum and recall in Oregon to the need for that sort of thing in New York State. A slight break in the evident sympathy between the club and the speaker came, however, when Senator Owen criticized the United States Senate for turning a deaf ear to the petitions of thirty-eight states demanding a constitutional amendment for the election of Senators by the people.

“Think of it, my friends, the United States Senate, the highest and most honorable legislative body in this nation, deliberately refuses to accede to the demands of thirty-eight states which have”

“There’s right, too,” some one shouted. Then three or four voices called out “Question!” Question? Chairman Craiglin pounded the table with his great and ironistic of the members swept the confusion into oblivion by jumping to their feet and giving Senator Owen a tribute of applause that was only equalled by that which was given to Senator Albert B. Cummins, of Iowa, who spoke to the club a week ago yesterday on “Interstate Commerce.”

“My friend, I don’t think they are right. The man who goes to the Senate as the representative of a state and who refuses to comply with the will of the majority of states is not in truth a representative. He is a usurper of power.”

The Senator said the only opponent of the referendum and recall was “apathy.” He referred to what he believed was even more menacing apathy. It was the blindness of those who were so busy getting money that they overlooked the awakening of China.

Other speakers were F. C. Howe, secretary to the National Progressive League, and Professor Henry J. Ford, of Princeton University, who said the referendum and recall would only be used as a “purgative” and then put on the closet shelf where we would have the further use for it after abuses had been corrected.

Henry B. Maurer, secretary to the Initiative and Referendum Club, and a Democrat, wanted to know whether the people who voted for a change in New York State last November would countenance the “Bourgeois” now on at Albany if they had the recall. A paper in opposition to the initiative and referendum, written by Walter D. Kinney, secretary to the Representative Government League in Ohio, was read.

BIG FAILURE IN BROOKLYN.

The W. C. Vosburg Manufacturing Company, of No. 33 Underhill avenue, Brooklyn, filed a petition in voluntary bankruptcy yesterday. According to the statements made in the papers, the firm owes \$204,925.87 and has assets which are valued at \$175,792.33.

MEXICAN REBELS WIN

Inflict Defeat on Federal Force After 36 Hours’ Fight.

AEROPLANE OVER JUAREZ

Hamilton Flies Over Rio Grande and Makes First Reconnoissance from Air in Wartime.

San Antonio, Tex., Feb. 11.—Advices received here to-day are to the effect that the Mexican federal troops have suffered severe defeat at Mulato, where a battle raged for thirty-six hours.

According to this message, the rebel forces lost only two men, while the federal loss is described as heavy. Many of the dead soldiers were left lying on the field. The federal outnumbers the rebels.

Officers here who are familiar with that section of Mexico believe the federal forces were caught in a pocket and hemmed in by the enemy.

At last accounts the Mexican troops were retreating rapidly. Presidio, Tex., is the nearest American town to Mulato, and advices were received by way of that place. The dispatches are vague, but it is believed they refer to a continuation of the fight reported Wednesday. The federalists are said to have numbered three hundred and the rebels two hundred.

El Paso, Tex., Feb. 11.—In spite of the warning that he might be fired on by federal troops, Charles K. Hamilton yesterday flew across the border into Mexico and made the first aeroplane reconnoissance ever attempted in time of war.

Hamilton was allowed to make the flight by the American officers in charge of the border patrol on condition that he would divulge no information which he might acquire in his flight. When he brought his machine to the ground he said: “There seems to be quite an army in Juarez.”

A strategy board has been created for the insurgent army and is now on the march with Orozco. This board is directing movements of troops, but none of the insurgent commanders is to be removed or reduced. All will be urged to operate in harmony, the board having been organized merely to prevent jealousies among commanders. The members are Colonel José de la Luzot, who commanded the victorious rebels at Ojinaga; Eduardo Hay, engineering graduate of Notre Dame, which is also the signal governor of Chihuahua; Giuseppe Garibaldi, grandson of the great Garibaldi; Captain Alvarez Morales, a graduate from the Mexican National Military School, and Captain Manuel Vidal, a former Mexican army officer and for some time the chief of staff for Orozco.

Juarez officials said this morning that they expected Navarro, with his reinforcements, to arrive on Sunday. The insurgents are said to be close to Juarez, apparently to the west and southwest. Alan’s command is east of Juarez, where there have been several skirmishes lately.

Maxwell, Feb. 11.—General Simon Berthold and his band of insurgents recaptured Mexicalt early to-day. The insurgents camped about two miles below Mexicalt last night and marched into the town at dawn. The Mexican officials hurriedly crossed to the American side.

EDISON 64 YEARS OLD

Celebrates Day by Wearing a Bright Carnation.

GETS MANY TELEGRAMS

Still Works Eighteen Hours a Day and Spends His Spare Time in Study of Music.

West Orange, N. J., Feb. 11 (Special).—Thomas A. Edison completed his sixty-fourth year to-day, and he celebrated it as he has celebrated most of his birthdays, by working three-quarters of the day. He was particularly busy this afternoon, not only declining an invitation from Mrs. Edison to commemorate the day by going on a little outing with other members of his family, but refusing even to take the time to go to his home in Llewellyn Park for luncheon. Instead he had a snack sent down to his laboratory.

The inventor conceded something to the day by putting a bright carnation in his buttonhole. As he told Mrs. Edison, in refusing her invitation: “There is lots of work to be done, and I cannot get away.”

While Edison applied himself through the long afternoon in the quiet of his study at the laboratory, those who work through the week turning out the physical products of his ideas took the Saturday afternoon off. A reporter reminded Edison that two years ago he announced he had given up active work.

“I did,” said the inventor, with his ready smile, “but I gave up only the things I did not care to do. There are still a great many things that I still like to do, and I keep doing them. Agreeable work never hurt any one, and I am no exception to the rule. So long as I can do what I like to do I expect to keep my health. I was a business man for over half a century, and now I am merely having a good time.”

“It is nice to hear that the public is interested in my health,” said Mr. Edison. “You may say that I am blessed with good health. My body and I are still keeping at it for about eighteen hours a day, and I am very glad to say that it is seldom I get tired.”

“When I have any spare time I study music. You will be surprised to learn that, but it is true. When I was young I was denied the opportunities to develop myself along aesthetic lines, but now I am doing more of it. Last night I waded through several hundred compositions. Of course I did not execute them. I have a machine that does that for me.”

“I am investigating the construction of music, and have found to my surprise that there is very little originality in it. All the waiters are nearly the same, and the fact is that musical composition is full of plagiarisms. Most of the writers of music merely take old themes and work them over, but Beethoven is one who escapes that charge. His compositions will always live.”

Edison received telegrams of congratulation from all sections.

FIRE AT EXECUTIVE MANSION

Blaze in Closet Does \$650 Damage—Governor and Wife Away.

ART EXHIBITIONS AND SALES.

Albany, Feb. 11.—Fire in a clothes closet in the basement under the main stairway at the Executive Mansion this morning caused a flurry of excitement, but was extinguished by the department before much damage had been done.

The blaze is supposed to have started either from a defective electric wire or a hot flatiron.

Governor and Mrs. Dix are both in New York, and the damage will be repaired before their return.

The state carried an insurance of \$100,000 on the Executive Mansion, and the loss was settled within a few hours for \$650.

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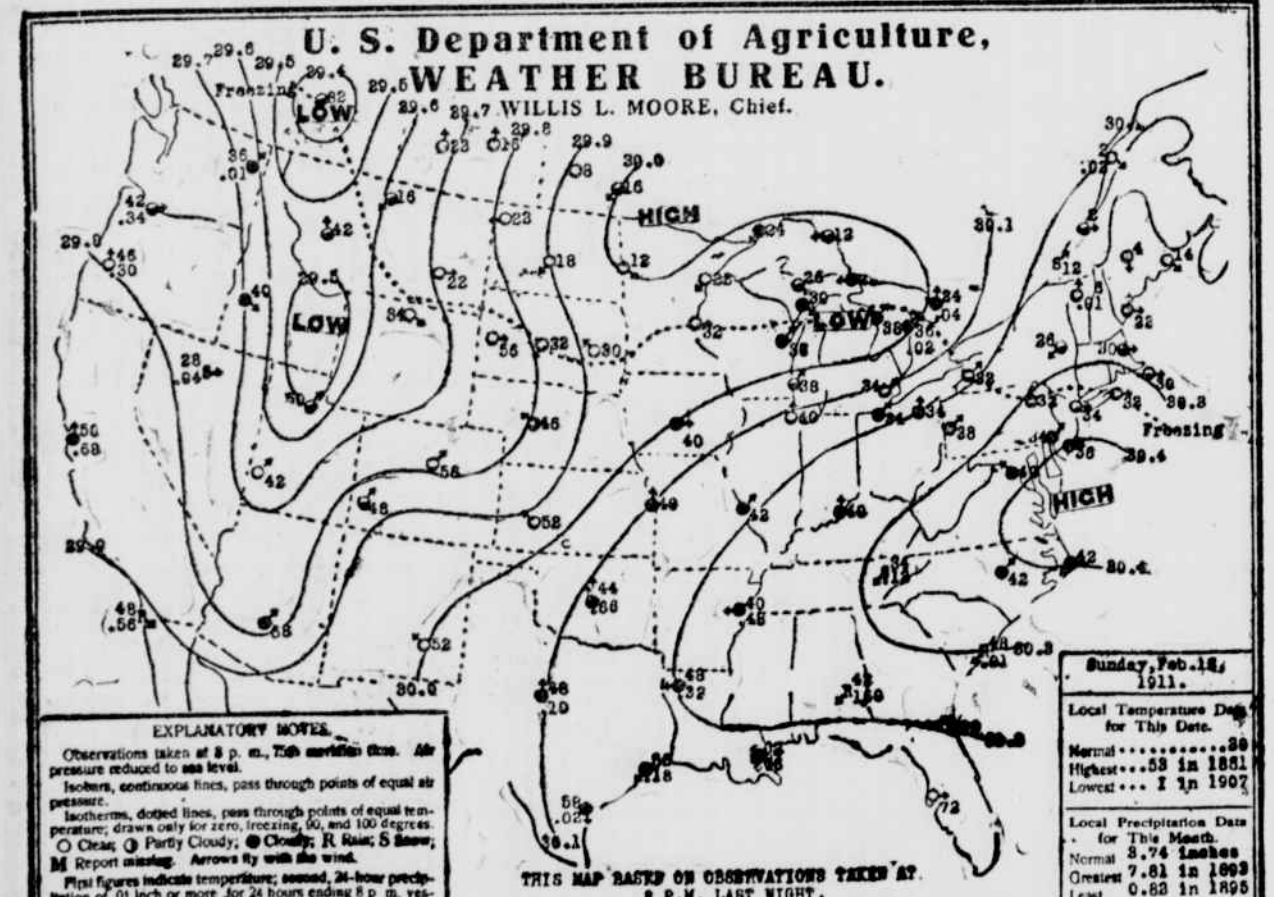
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TO DEDICATE NEW SCHOOL

Institution Attached to Church of St. Columba Ready for Pupils.

The new school of St. Columba, in West 25th street, between Eighth and Ninth avenues, attached to the Church of St. Columba, of which the Rev. Thomas A. Thornton is pastor, will be dedicated this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by Archbishop Farley, assisted by all the members of the clergy, and a large number of laymen.

PISTOL PERMITS NOW COST \$10.

The Police Commissioner, in circular No. 8 yesterday notified all the uniformed force that the pistol ordinance passed by the Board of Aldermen on January 24 had gone into effect. The new ordinance increases the cost of pistol permits from \$5 to \$10.

IMPORTANT PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT!

THE

Fifth Avenue Art Galleries

(SILO BUILDING), 546 FIFTH AVENUE, and 1, 3 and 5 West 45th Street, MR. JAMES P. SILO BEGS TO ANNOUNCE

THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY SALE OF

GENUINE ANCIENT TAPESTRIES,

PAINTINGS AND BIBELOTS

HELD IN RECENT YEARS,

undoubtedly the most interesting and valuable ever exhibited and sold in this City

TO BE SOLD AT UNRESTRICTED PUBLIC SALE

By order of Mr. C. F. Williamson, 99 Rue de Petits Champs, Paris

Exhibition commences Monday, February 27th.

DATE OF SALE to be announced in future advertisements, which will appear at exhibition date.

ART EXHIBITIONS AND SALES.

Book and Art Sales

Weekly Announcement

Afternoons & Evenings of Feb. 15, 16

Library Autographs & Mss.

of the late

Judge Jacob Klein

of St. Louis, Mo.

PART II. (and final part)

An extraordinary collection of First Editions of the Works of L. Stevenson, including autographed and annotated copies of A. J. Swinburne, including four manuscript poems. Alfred, including "Helen's Tower" and "Poems by Two Brothers." Meredith's Poems 1851 and an inscribed copy of "Shaggy" first edition of Pope's "Essay on Man" and "Rape of the Lock" and of Wm. Morris' "The Earthly Paradise." Letters of Lowell and his wife, Whittier, Riley, etc. Publications of the Vale and Riverside Presses. Many other books, hand-drawn, bound and in fine condition. Photo Portraits, a Print Cabinet, etc.

Sales Begin at 2:30 and 8:15 P. M.

THE ANDERSON AUCTION COMPANY,

12 East 46th Street, New York.

Telephone Bryant 271.

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“Only a few days more in which to see this notable gathering in its entirety.”

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On Public View 9 A. M. until 6 P. M.

(Sunday Excepted) To-morrow (Lincoln's Birthday) Included.

(ADMISSION FIFTY CENTS)

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To-morrow (Monday), “Lincoln's Birthday,” from 8 until 10 o'clock

The Notable Art Collection

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Robert Hoe,

TO BE SOLD AT UNRESTRICTED PUBLIC SALE

BY THE ORDER OF F. W. H. CRANE AND PHINEAS P. CHEW, EXECUTORS.

ORDER OF SALE

Evening Sessions

At Mendelssohn Hall

Thursday, February 16th

Friday, February 17th

Wednesday, February 15th

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